

AT



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/009,317	05/15/2002	Michael E. Selsted	P-UC 5042	6942
23601	7590	05/05/2004	EXAMINER	
CAMPBELL & FLORES LLP 4370 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE 7TH FLOOR SAN DIEGO, CA 92122			DESAI, ANAND U	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1653	

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/009,317

Applicant(s)

SELSTED ET AL.

Examiner

Anand U Desai, Ph.D.

Art Unit

1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-83 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-83 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-35, 51 in part, 52-54, and 78, drawn to a theta defensin peptide, and a pharmaceutical composition comprising the theta defensin peptide, a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism, and a method of expressing a theta defensin.

Group II, claim(s) 36-38, drawn to an antibody that specifically binds the theta defensin peptide.

Group III, claim(s) 39-50, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule and a vector encoding a theta defensin.

Group IV, claim(s) 51 in part, 55, and 56, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a protozoan.

Group V, claim(s) 51 in part, 57, and 58, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a virus.

Group VI, claim(s) 51 in part, 59, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism in food or food product.

Group VII, claim(s) 51 in part, 60-62, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism in a solution.

Art Unit: 1653

Group VIII, claim(s) 51 in part, and 63, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism from an inanimate object comprising a surface.

Group IX, claim(s) 51 in part, 64, and 65, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism in a mammal by topical administration of theta defensin.

Group X, claim(s) 51 in part, 66, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism wherein the administration of theta defensin is by injection.

Group XI, claim(s) 51 in part, 67, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism wherein the administration of theta defensin is via the oral route.

Group XII, claim(s) 68-76, drawn to a method of preparing a cyclic peptide.

Group XIII, claim(s) 78 in part, 79-80, drawn to a method of expressing two theta defensin peptides.

Group XIV, claim(s) 81, and 82, drawn to an isolated peptide ligase.

Group XV, claim(s) 83, drawn to a method of reducing or inhibiting growth or survival of a microorganism in an individual, comprising administering a molecule that increases expression of a theta defensin.

In claim 2, multiple sequences are set forth in the formula and the amino acids for each Xaa are not conservative and therefore would change the structure and function of the peptide. Applicants must elect a single sequence they wish to be examined. This is not a species election. Rejoinder of all or a specified subset of the sequences is possible if Applicants provide a single and specific representative subsequence found in all or a specified subset of the sequences for search, and state that all or a specified subset of the sequences **are not patentable distinct**.

Art Unit: 1653

Applicants are informed that if their specified sequence is found that all or a specified subset of sequences are obvious over that prior art sequence.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-XV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The technical feature linking groups I-XV appears to be that they all relate to defensin peptides having antimicrobial activity. However, Harder et al. (Nature 387, pp.861, 1997) discloses antimicrobial defensin polypeptides. Therefore, the technical feature linking the inventions of groups I-XV does not constitute a special technical feature as defined by PCT Rule 13.2, as it does not define a contribution over the prior art. The multiple methods are impermissible as PCT Rules 13.1-13.2 do not allow for multiple methods.

Furthermore, the DNA molecule and protein are related since the DNA encodes the specifically claimed protein, they are distinct inventions because the protein product can be made by another and materially different process, such as by synthetic peptide synthesis or purification from the natural source. Further, the DNA may be used for processes other than the production of the protein, such as nucleic acid hybridization assay. Although the protein and antibody are related due to the necessary steric complementarity of the two, they are distinct Inventions because the protein can be used in another and materially different process from the use for the production of the antibody, such as in a pharmaceutical composition in its own right, or to assay or purify the natural ligand of the protein (if the protein is itself a receptor), or in assays for the identification of agonists or antagonists of the receptor protein. The nucleic acid and the antibody are related by virtue of the protein that is encoded by the nucleic acid and necessary for the production of the antibody. However, the nucleic acid itself is not necessary for antibody production and both

Art Unit: 1653

are wholly different compounds having different compositions and functions. Therefore, these Inventions are distinct. Accordingly, Groups I-XVI are not so linked by the same or a corresponding special technical feature as to form a single general inventive concept.

3. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the

Art Unit: 1653

process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

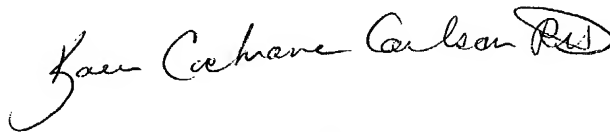
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anand U Desai, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0947. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on (517) 272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1653

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 20, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. De'.A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Cochrane Carlson' followed by a circled 'Ph.D.'.

KAREN COCHRANE CARLSON, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER